

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1958, September 29, 1956



## Unicorn down at Kew

The Queen's Beasts which stood outside Westminster Abbey at the Coronation were modelled in plaster by Mr. James Woodford, R.A. Now he has made replicas of these heraldic creatures in Portland Stone for Kew Gardens, and here we see a young admirer of the Unicorn of Scotland.

## GOOD SCOUTS IN BRISTOL

For the first time in Scouting history eight senior members of the same group have won the Queen's Scout Badge. Aged between 15 and 17, they belong to the 45th Bristol Group.

The Badge is the movement's top proficiency award, showing that its wearer has reached the highest peak of Scouting efficiency. Since 1946 the qualifications have been made more difficult, yet each year more and more Senior Scouts are accepting the challenge, and winning the coveted Badge and the Royal Certificate bearing a special message from the Queen.

## STOWAWAY

A British racing pigeon named Joey, is back in Liverpool after travelling 15,000 miles to South America and back on the cargo ship Samanco.

Joey came on board when the ship was a day out from Milford Haven and he was given quarters in a roomy vegetable locker on deck as he appeared exhausted. But he soon recovered and became a pet of the crew.

Although he was often freed he would fly back on board again. So he was accepted by the second cook, a Hull man, whose brother is a pigeon fancier. Inquiries have been made to trace the owner.

## AWARDED HIS OWN MEDAL

The Nansen Medal for outstanding work on behalf of refugees has been awarded to the late Dr. G. J. Van Heuven Goedhart, who was United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees until he died on July 8. It is an award which he himself instituted in honour of the great-hearted Dr. Nansen.

The only other holders of the award are Mrs. Dorothy Houghton, another great worker for refugees, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands.

## HARMLESS BEE

The Apiarists' Institute of Lower Saxony have managed to produce a type of bee so harmless that a beekeeper can work at his hives without the protection of a veil. Unfortunately, this "stingless bee" does not appear to produce so much honey as the normal bee.

## CHRISTINE IS GOING TO THE TOP

### C.N. calls to see Britain's new Junior tennis champion at home

*In the past two or three years Britain has produced a number of young lawn tennis players of great promise, one of the most outstanding of them being 15-year-old Christine Truman. The youngest girl ever to play for England, and the winner of the girls' singles in this year's British Junior championships, Christine was visited the other day in her home at Woodford, Essex, by a C.N. Special Correspondent. This is his account of the new Girl Tennis Champion's steps to sporting fame.*

THE first thing you notice on entering the lounge of the Truman house is a huge window, taking up nearly the whole of one side of the room and protected on the outside by high wire netting. That netting is most necessary, for beside the window is the wall on which the young Trumans have cut their "tennis" teeth.

Christine was eight when she started to practise strokes against this wall. How successful were the results can be seen by the second most prominent thing in the lounge—a glass-fronted china cupboard literally crammed with silver cups, bowls, plates, and other trophies. There must be nearly a hundred of them, and above the cupboard, too big to go inside, is an enormous bowl which was presented to Christine in July when she won the Scottish championship.

### TOO YOUNG FOR WIMBLEDON

Not all of the trophies are Christine's. Some belong to her ten-year-old sister Nell, who actually won a cup for rowing when she was only five. Others have been won by brother Humphrey, himself a fine tennis player who represents his county and got into the third round of the last Wimbledon doubles championship.

Christine had to be content to be a spectator at Wimbledon in June; she was too young to compete. Yet only a few weeks earlier she had represented her country in a senior international match, the youngest girl ever to do so. During the summer she also won four open tournaments.

These fine achievements have brought high praise. But there is little chance of her becoming conceited—five brothers and sisters see to that. Proud though they are of Christine, they greet any flattering comment in the most unflattering way, and with a great deal of teasing. It is the right atmosphere for a champion.

Christine certainly came in for plenty of teasing when, at the age of 13, she entered for the British Junior Championships and was

knocked out in the first round. But no one cheered louder than her brothers and sisters when she got to the final of the plate competition. This was a particularly fine achievement, for these championships are open to players up to 18.

The following year her family were there again to watch Christine lose a thrilling three-set match in the semi-finals against Ann Haydon, who became the champion. But it was third time lucky for Christine, who beat Ann Haydon in the final a little more than a week ago.

### FIRST TOURNAMENT AT TEN

Christine was ten when she entered her first tournament. (And did not even know how to score properly, she laughingly confessed to me.) At 12 she won her first tournament—the Essex Girls' Championship for players up to 16. In that same year she won the Evening News 12-15 Championship, and caught the eye of England's leading coach, Dan Maskell. He at once saw her outstanding promise and arranged for her to receive coaching under the Lawn Tennis Association scheme which is doing so much to bring young English players to the front rank.

### REVISING HER STROKES

Her performances in the past two years have confirmed his views. Only a few months ago he was saying that "If Christine doesn't make the very top class of world tennis I'll eat my hat." And Mr. Maskell is not very partial to boiled trilby!

During the past two years Christine has had many of her strokes revised. Her forehand, for example, used to be played with a rather high, looped back-swing.

Although the stroke was suitable for junior events, George Worthington, the L.T.A. chief coach, knows it is too slow for international tennis. So out went the long back swing. Her service, too, has been changed.

Continued on page 2

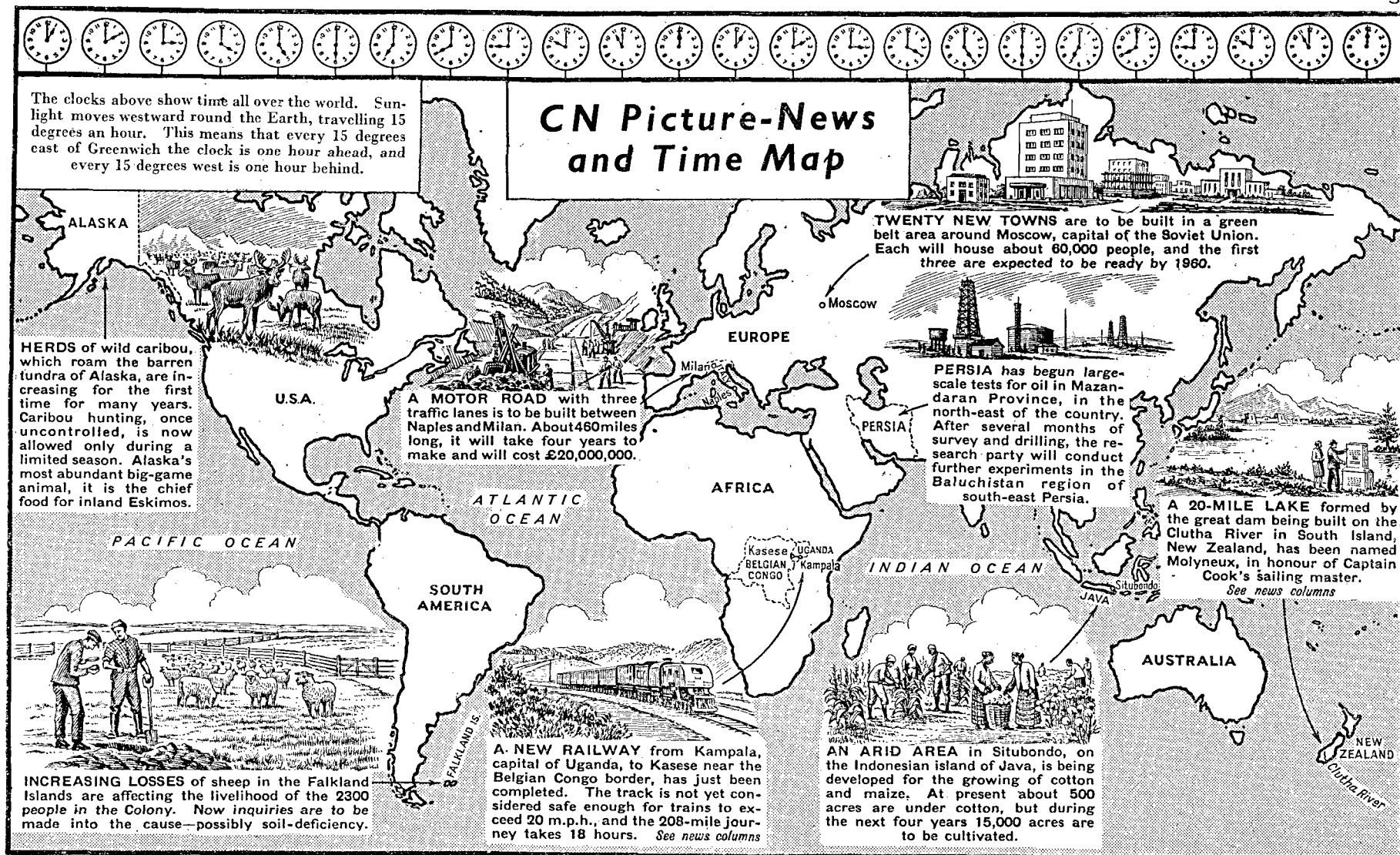


A black and white photograph of a female tennis player in mid-swing. She is wearing a light-colored short-sleeved shirt and a pleated skirt. Her body is twisted, and her arms are extended, holding a tennis racket. She is on a tennis court, with a dark background behind her.

**HE'S PASSED!**  
-thanks to  
**MERCER'S**

Name.....  
Address.....  
.....  
..... If applicable  
Age of child..... Date of exam.....  
BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE C29





### MILLION DOLLARS A MILE

Tremendous jobs have been tackled by the engineers who are building the 5000-mile Trans-Canada Highway.

In Northern Ontario they have had to negotiate wide marshy tracts 50 feet deep, but it is in the Rocky Mountains that they have been facing their most difficult and dangerous work.

In Kicking Horse Canyon, for instance, they have had to blast away the mountain wall 500 to 1000 feet above the turbulent Columbia River. Landslides have been a constant menace to the road-building crews. In many places, too, the railway runs below the new Highway, and great care has to be taken to protect the tracks from falls of rock and rubble, which must be carried away truckload by truckload.

Speaking recently of this great engineering project, the Canadian Minister of Public Works said that in one nine-mile mountain stretch of the new road two million tons of rock and an equal amount of dirt had been moved by 5000 tons of explosives. "The cost of construction in this area," he went on, "is estimated at a million dollars a mile."

### COAL BY PIPELINE

A new pipeline in the United States carries coal 108 miles from mines in south-eastern Ohio to a Cleveland generating station. Washed, finely crushed, and mixed with water, the coal moves through the pipeline under pressure from pumps.

### NEW RAILWAY IN UGANDA

Uganda has a new railway, running 208 miles from Kampala, the capital, to Kasese, near the Belgian Congo border. First suggested by Sir Winston Churchill as long ago as 1906, this new line will help to open up one of the richest areas of Africa, connecting it with the line to the coast of Mombasa.

Building it has been a formidable engineering task, for it passes through thick tropical rain forests and across treacherous swamps. On one six-mile stretch the gradients are so steep that trains travel by a long spiral.

At present the journey from Kampala to Kasese takes about 18 hours—a long time for 208 miles—because there is a speed limit of 20 m.p.h. until it is decided that the track is safe for fast running.

See World Map

### WONDERFUL WEATHER THIS SUMMER

"There has been just rain, rain, and more rain." That is how the secretary of the West Ham Allotment Society has summed up this summer's weather. But he was not grumbling. Far from it. His society's recent show had been one of the most successful on record. "And it's all due to the wonderful weather," he exulted. "It has produced some wonderful root crops—they are really outstanding."

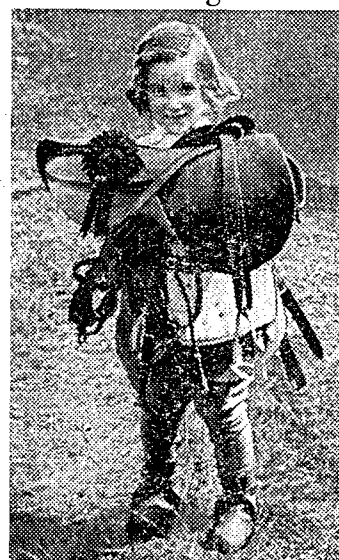
His glee reminds us that the 1956 summer has not only been a fine one for ducks, but for roots, too, it seems.

### 40,000 FEET UP IN A BALLOON

Two U.S. Naval scientists recently soared up to 40,000 feet to make one of the highest ascents in an open balloon. The purpose of their high altitude ballooning was to carry out tests in the stratosphere which cannot be done by instruments from inside an aircraft. One of their experiments involved taking close-up photographs of vapour trails made by two circling aircraft.

The scientists remained in the stratosphere for two hours in a temperature that fell to 39 degrees Fahrenheit below freezing.

### Saddle girl



Little Kim Robinson of Knockholt, Kent, makes herself useful at a Pony Club meeting.

### DRAMA ON THE HIGH-WIRE

Spectators were horrified by an unrehearsed incident in a high-wire motor-cycle display at St. Nazaire in France, not long ago.

The performers were two Germans, Alphonse and Sonia Traber. Alphonse rode a motor-cycle across a tight wire stretched nearly 200 feet from the ground between two towers. Below him in a trapeze seat attached to the machine sat Sonia. They were half way across the wire when the engine stuttered and stopped.

Cries of alarm broke out from the crowd below, but the high-wire experts kept their heads. Alphonse cautiously alighted from the motor-cycle onto the wire and then, balancing himself, the machine, and the woman below, began searching for the fault in the motor. It took him 25 hazardous minutes to put it right. When the engine burst into action, cheers of relief came up to the intrepid pair as they continued their ride.

### SCOUTS TO CLIMB KILIMANJARO

Three Scoutmasters and five Scouts have left Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, by car for Tanganyika, where they will attempt to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, which rises to 19,340 feet and is Africa's highest.

The Scoutmasters are experienced mountaineers, but the only practice the boys have had is scrambling up and down the small kopje that overlooks Salisbury.

### NEW ZEALAND'S NEW LAKE

Lake Molyneux is the name of the 20-mile lake that has been formed by a great dam across the Clutha River in New Zealand; and it is a link with Captain James Cook's first voyage to New Zealand, in 1769-70.

Captain Cook named the estuary of the river after Mr. Molyneux, his sailing master, just as he named many other features of the coastline after people on his ship. Scottish settlers later called the river the Clutha, which is the ancient name for the River Clyde.

Lake Molyneux, which revives the name of Cook's officer, will provide water for the turbines of a hydro-electric power station at the nearby village of Roxburgh.

See World Map

### WAY OF A WHALE

The biggest job of whale-marking ever done in Australian waters has been completed in the area around Moreton Island, off Brisbane. No fewer than 800 whales have been marked in two months by the Fisheries Section of the Australian Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

As with birds, marking throws light on the yearly movements of the whales. It is now known that they usually spend the summer in Antarctic waters and then go north for the winter, to travel by the same route.

On reaching the Australian coast one party goes east to winter in the South Pacific, and the other travels west.



4  
RADIO AND TV

# DAVID COPPERFIELD ON YOUR SCREENS

EVERYONE knows of Charles Dickens's David Copperfield. Partly the story of Dickens's own experiences, it is one of the great novelist's most popular works, and many people consider it to be his finest.

BBC Television is to bring it to life in serial form, starting next Friday in 13 weekly episodes. It has about 70 speaking parts.

Young David Copperfield of the early chapters will be played by 15-year-old Leonard Cracknell, of Hornchurch, Essex, making his TV debut. The grown-up David, first seen in Part 5, will be played by Robert Hardy, whose previous big TV rôle was as Cassio in Othello.

Next Friday at 8.45 we shall meet Mabel Constanduros as Mrs. Gummidge, Diana Fairfax as Mrs. Copperfield, Edna Morris as Clara Pegotty, David's nurse, William Devlin as the cruel Mr. Murdstone,

and Patricia Rootes as Little Emily.

The scene is, of course, set in Suffolk, where Producer Douglas Allen has recently been filming and making tape-recordings of people talking to help the cast capture the authentic Suffolk accent. In later instalments we shall meet Dora (Zena Walker) and her dog Gyp—a King Charles spaniel difficult to cast, says Mr. Allen, because he has to do a lot of sympathetic acting!

Scene designer Stephen Bundy has based his settings on the original drawings by Phiz.



Leonard Cracknell as David Copperfield

## In rough water

CANOE slaloming, which viewers saw from a weir near Doncaster, comes South on Saturday, when cameras will be set up beside Shepperton Weir, on the Thames.

This obstacle race in turbulent water should provide exciting pictures as the Chalfont Canoe Club battle against the Kayak Club of Belgrade.

## Return of Sooty

HARRY CORBETT and Sooty are returning to BBC Children's TV on Sunday week, October 7. Their programmes, on alternate Sundays, will come from the Northern TV studio in Manchester.

For Sooty it will be a return to his native North, as he was discovered at the Northern Radio Exhibition and given his first TV date there.

## The Would-Be-Goods

ALTHOUGH David (W. E. Davis) of Children's Hour is now on a three-months' stay in South Africa, we can hear his recorded voice week by week from next Wednesday (October 3) as Oswald Bastable, the self-styled hero of Edith Nesbit's famous children's book, *The Would-Be-Goods*.

Oswald, who tells the stories, is the eldest boy in a family who have most of their adventures in and around the house and garden. In the first story they rig up a jungle on the lawn.

Geoffrey Dearmer, of Children's Hour, tells me that his mother personally knew Edith Nesbit. Novelist and poet, she was also one of the finest writers for children in the early 1900s, and her stories have just as fresh an appeal today.

## Oldest studio

ONE of the oldest buildings to be converted into a radio studio centre is St. Catharine's Close, All Saints' Green, Norwich. It has two studios and was brought into service by the BBC for the first time this month.

A fine example of 18th-century architecture, St. Catharine's Close has been scheduled by the Norwich City Fathers for preservation as typical of a well-maintained city merchant's house of the early Georgian period.

## In an American school

BBC TELEVISION is this Wednesday showing a film of life in a typical American co-educational school, but we must stay up until 10.15 to see it.

Back to School, as it is called, covers a visit to Morgantown secondary school, West Virginia. The pupils, aged between 13 and 18, are seen holding their Parliament, and learning housework, farming, vocational jobs, and even car-driving. As well as this, a study group tries its skill at a Shakespeare production.

ERNEST THOMSON

## BUS MEN IN BOATS

Bus drivers, conductors, and inspectors are among 150 sailing enthusiasts now using a small club on the famous Welsh Harp lake at Hendon.

They are members of a branch of the British Transport Commission Yachting Club which London Transport men started a few years ago.

During training evenings they practise for a "helmsman's test," and have to show that they can sail a given course, know their "man overboard" drill, the "rules of the road," and that they can bring their boat to the jetty without crashing into it.

This winter they hope to be building their own boats.



Jean Grahame, the Continuity Girl who is the subject in the first of the new careers series

## She looks for mistakes

THE career of a film continuity girl has been chosen by John Lane, of BBC Children's Hour, for his first *I Want To Be...* programme in the new series starting on Saturday. Nan Macdonald, who visited film studios and wrote the script, will show how exciting this job can be, even if it is one of the busiest and most responsible on the studio floor.

Working in close touch with the Director, the film continuity girl has to see that settings and "props" are correct in each scene and are never varied or moved out of place unless the script says so.

*I Want to Be...* has now been running for four years and has dealt with 40 different occupations.

John Lane has had hundreds of letters proving the usefulness of the series in the choice of a career. He tells me that occupations covered this winter will include surveying, physiotherapy, nursing, coal-mining, and Post Office work.

## IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

# Lake for the Queen

SEPTEMBER 23, 1591. ODIHAM, Hampshire—An artificial lake with three islands was among the lavish arrangements made by the Earl of Hertford to welcome Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on her three-day state visit to his home, Elvetham Hall, four miles from Odiham.

Because the Hall was not large enough to house the Queen's retinue the Earl had an extra house built in the park for the noblemen. The outside of this house was covered with boughs and clusters of hazel nuts. The walls inside were draped with tapestries and the ceilings covered with ivy.

The valley between this temporary house and Elvetham Hall was converted into a lake on which floated boats, carrying musicians. One of the three islands was built in the shape of a ship, with trees for its masts.

On her arrival the Queen was met by the Earl, accompanied by a train of 300 gentlemen, wearing gold chains round their necks and yellow and black feathers in their hats.

A poet, wearing a laurel wreath, read a poem of welcome in Latin—which the Queen spoke fluently—and six maidens strewed flowers in her path.

# Lollard leader jailed

SEPTEMBER 25, 1413. LONDON—Sir John Oldcastle, the Lollard leader and disciple of the late John Wycliff, was today declared a heretic and handed over to the civil authorities for imprisonment in the Tower.

Sir John, who was for many years a close friend of the present sovereign, King Henry V, when Prince of Wales, is said to have sought the King's aid in reforming the church on Lollard lines.

When tracts proposing such reforms were recently found in his possession they were read in the King's presence to a gathering of prelates and nobles. Despite

this evidence against Sir John the King tried to save him and begged the bishops to persuade him from his Lollard beliefs.

Sir John remained obdurate, and three weeks ago an order for him to appear before the Archbishop of Canterbury was affixed to the doors of Rochester Cathedral. Sir John's supporters tore down the order and he failed to appear.

Instead he appealed to the King to protect him. The King refused, allowed a summons to be served on Sir John in his presence, and the offender was brought before the Archbishop's Court a week ago.

# New river for London

SEPTEMBER 29, 1613. CLERKENWELL—Large crowds gathered in the fields between here and Islington today to see the inauguration of London's "New River," which is to bring a supply of fresh spring water to the city.

Attending the ceremony were 60 of the labourers who have worked on the project. They were bearing symbols of their trades.

Drums and trumpets played and cannons were fired as the floodgates were opened and water flowed into the reservoir.

Eight years ago Parliament authorised the Corporation of London to bring water to the city from springs in Hertfordshire, but no further steps were taken until 1609 when Mr. Hugh Myddelton, goldsmith to King James, was given permission to build the canal now known as "New River."

The canal runs for more than 38 miles from Chadwell, near Ware, to the New River Head Reservoir. It is ten feet wide and four feet deep.

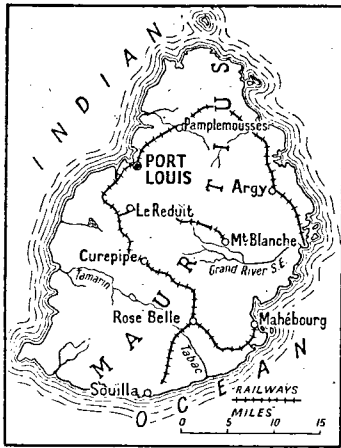


## Travelling smith

The travelling blacksmith from the Lake District town of Cockermouth visits a farm at Loweswater. By coming to the farm, the smith saves the farmer the time and trouble of taking his horses to the smithy.



# IN THE ISLANDS PRINCESS MARGARET IS TO VISIT



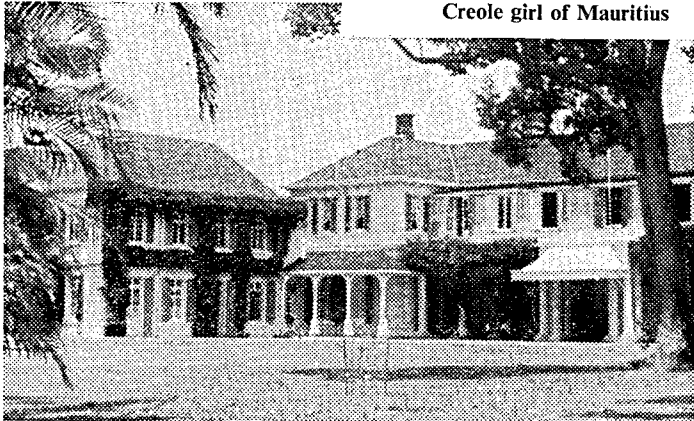
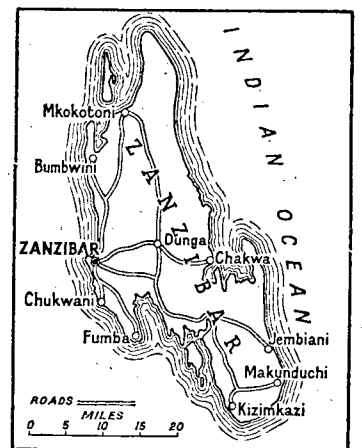
Creole girl of Mauritius



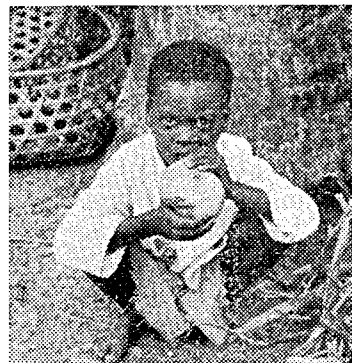
An Arab seaman at Zanzibar



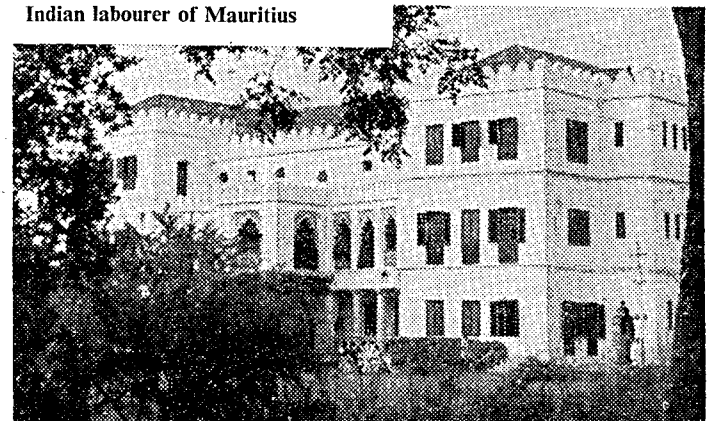
Indian labourer of Mauritius



Le Reduit, the Governor's Residence on Mauritius



Mango time in Mauritius



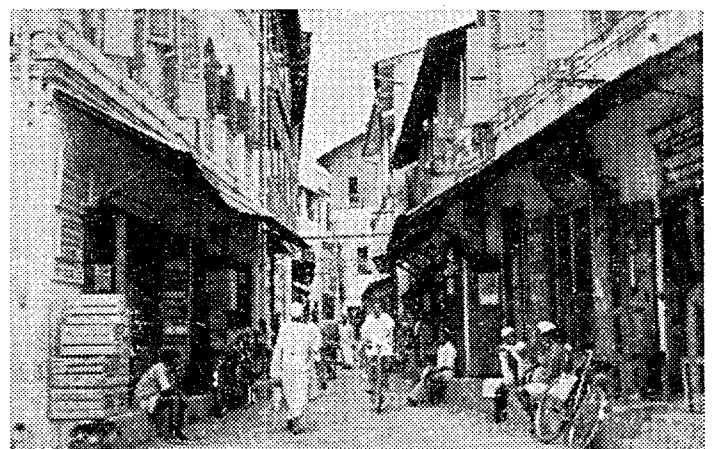
Government House gleaming in the sunshine at Zanzibar



Harvesting sugar cane, the "white gold of Mauritius"



18th-century church in Mauritius



A street scene in the town of Zanzibar



Loading sugar into lighters in the harbour at Port Louis, capital of Mauritius



A roof-top view of the town of Zanzibar. In the background is the cathedral

These photographs show scenes and types of the people Princess Margaret will see during her tour of the islands of Mauritius and Zanzibar. Mauritius, where the royal yacht is due on September 29, lies out in the Indian Ocean 530 miles east of Madagascar, and about 2300 miles north-east of the Cape of Good Hope. Its area is 720 square miles, and it is the home of about 539,000 people, many of whom are of Indian descent. Britain captured the island from France in 1810, during the Napoleonic wars. It was then called Ile de France,

but the British restored the name given it by the Dutch, who had occupied it from 1598 to 1710. Zanzibar, where the Princess is due to arrive on October 5, is separated from the Tanganyika coast by a channel only 22½ miles wide at one point. It has an area of 640 square miles and a population of nearly 150,000, made up mostly of Africans, Arabs, and Indians, with some 300 Europeans. Zanzibar is sometimes known as the Isle of Cloves; with its neighbour, Pemba Island, it produces four-fifths of the world's total crop.



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars . London . EC4  
SEPTEMBER 29 ..... 1956

## HUMANITY IN A HURRY

MODERN man's desire to emulate Puck and "put a girdle round the earth in forty minutes," has brought new dangers, not the least among them being air collision.

This particular danger of high-speed flying is the subject of an article written by an American Air Force doctor in the magazine *Atlantic*. He points out that, on seeing another plane, a jet pilot travelling at 600 miles per hour has only a few seconds in which to size up the danger of collision and decide what to do. Meanwhile, he is still moving forward at half-a-mile every three seconds.

"As speeds increase and the number of aircraft multiplies," he continues, "the age-old method of survival by seeing and evading will become obsolete . . . a pilot will be committed to a mid-air collision even as, or before, he sees aircraft."

In other words, the pilot will be powerless to avert disaster.

This Air Force doctor, who has made a special study of air safety, suggests that all flying will ultimately become completely dependent on strict and accurate control by radar. Only in this way can the dangers of collision be avoided. It is but one of many problems that Man faces in this age of hurry.

## The Editor's Table

### GLADLY PAID

THE postman called at the London office of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and asked for the postage due on a large package which bore no stamps. Slightly amazed, an official paid up, and opened the package.

It contained 40 pound notes, but the only indication of the source of the gift was the Liverpool postmark on the wrapping!

"We apologise to the sender for our momentary annoyance," reports the journal, *Unicef Today*. "Any further communications of this kind will be welcome and the postage gladly paid!"

### To huff or not to huff

EVERY draughts player knows that if his opponent neglects to take a piece he can exclaim, "I huff you," and take the other man's piece. This time-honoured rule, however, has been abolished by the Americans, who have been invited to send a team here.

The question of whether we should follow their example is to be discussed at the meeting of the English Draughts Association at Bolton on Saturday.

Whatever the decision, we can be sure no one will get really huffy about it.

### Think on These Things

ST. PAUL in his Epistles constantly tells the Christians to whom he writes that he is praying for them and he makes it clear that this prayer for others is a mutual thing.

Christians help each other by their prayers and should regard it as the most natural thing in the world to pray for one another.

Christian love means seeking the highest and best for others.

When we pray for others we pray that they may grow in the likeness of Jesus. O. R. C.

### Non-growing pains

FAT boys and girls who are fit boys and girls are usually jolly boys and girls. And they are usually jolly popular, too, for although they come in for a great deal of banter it bounces off them and leaves no hard feelings.

It was a plump red-headed boy who caused us amusement at a station the other day. He was weighing himself on a slot machine, and as the hand came to rest he exclaimed in disgust: "Only eight stone! Why, I was eight stone last week."

Though disappointed, our red-headed hundredweight was soon his jolly self again. For our part, we could not help wondering how many people nowadays step off weighing machines lamenting the fact that they have gained weight.

### Thirty Years Ago

From the *Children's Newspaper*, October 2, 1926

THE longest tunnel in the world is now working; from Edgware, north of London, to Morden, in the south, a continuous 22-mile journey may be made, most of it underground. This has been done by extending the South London Electric Railway from Clapham to Morden.

Under the Thames the new Tube drops from Charing Cross by a fall of one in thirty, well below the river.

The main extension line is about five-and-a-half miles long, and the average depth below the surface is 40 feet. There are seven stations, all built of Portland stone. The moving staircase at Clapham South is, like the tunnel, the longest in the world.

### JUST AN IDEA

As Cardinal Newman wrote: In matters of duty first thoughts are best—they have more in them of the voice of God.

### THEY SAY . . .

I do not accept the theory, so often advanced these days, that our young people are spoon-fed, spineless, and passive. They show more initiative than ever before.

Sir John Wolfenden, Vice-Chancellor of Reading University

WHEN I visited New York they woke me up at 6.30 a.m. to ask me what I thought of the Democrats and the Republicans. I told them I didn't think much of anybody at that hour.

Sir Cuthbert Ackroyd, Lord Mayor of London

MACHINES, however complicated, will not help us to live well. We have got to find ways of doing that ourselves.

Professor B. R. Williams, of the University College of North Staffordshire

ENGLAND has moved a long way northwards in the last 150 million years from a previous position near the Equator.

Professor P. M. S. Blackett, F.R.S.

### QUIZ CORNER

1. What is the full-dress headgear of a Guardsman called?
2. Is snow a good or bad friend to plants?
3. Who was the original of Britannia on our coins?
4. Why has a kangaroo a pouch?
5. When is the famous Lutine bell at Lloyd's, London, sounded?
6. Why does filling with very hot water crack a thick tumbler but not a thin one?

Answers on page 12

### Out and About

SOME of the trees drop more of their leaves in every shower, in every breeze. But whether on the ground or still on the branch more and more leaves are changing to autumnal tones, from the vivid lemon yellow of birch or the bright but less radiant yellow of the poplar to the fiery glow of maple and the rich light-reflecting brown of beech.

The changes vary from region to region and according to our uncertain weather, but soon there will be no mistaking the growing tide of autumnal colour.

In the hedges, where foliage of briar and bramble begins to be wizened, the reddening berries show up. Also, if one is lucky, one may see a brimstone butterfly or a handsome red admiral fluttering and glowing in the sunshine. C. D. D.

### SHARING A SMILE

EVEN children followed with endearing wile, And plucked his gown, to share the good man's smile.

Oliver Goldsmith

The Children's Newspaper, September 29, 1956

## Next Week's Birthdays

### September 30

Joseph Reinach (1856-1921). French author and politician. He took up the cause of Captain Dreyfus, the Jewish officer who was wrongfully accused of betraying military secrets, and wrote a history of the case.

### October 1

Annie Besant (1847-1933). Religious reformer and politician. Sister-in-law of Sir



Walter Besant, the novelist, she was an early member of the Socialist Party and served on the London School Board. She went to India to work for Indian Home Rule and founded a Hindu College at Benares.

### October 2

Sir Pelham Francis Warner (1873). Known to cricket enthusiasts as "Plum," he played for Oxford University and captained Middlesex and the English Test side that won the Ashes in 1903. Since 1950 he has been President of the M.C.C.

### October 3

Annie Elizabeth Horniman (1860-1937). Repertory theatre manager. She was secretary to W. B. Yeats, the Irish poet, and used the fortune inherited from her father, F. J. Horniman, tea merchant, to subsidise the famous Abbey Theatre, Dublin. Later she bought the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, where she presented many fine new plays.

### October 4

Richard Cromwell (1626-1712). Lord Protector after his father, Oliver Cromwell. He was no ruler and was soon forced to resign, heavily in debt, and was nicknamed Tumble-Down-Dick.

### October 5

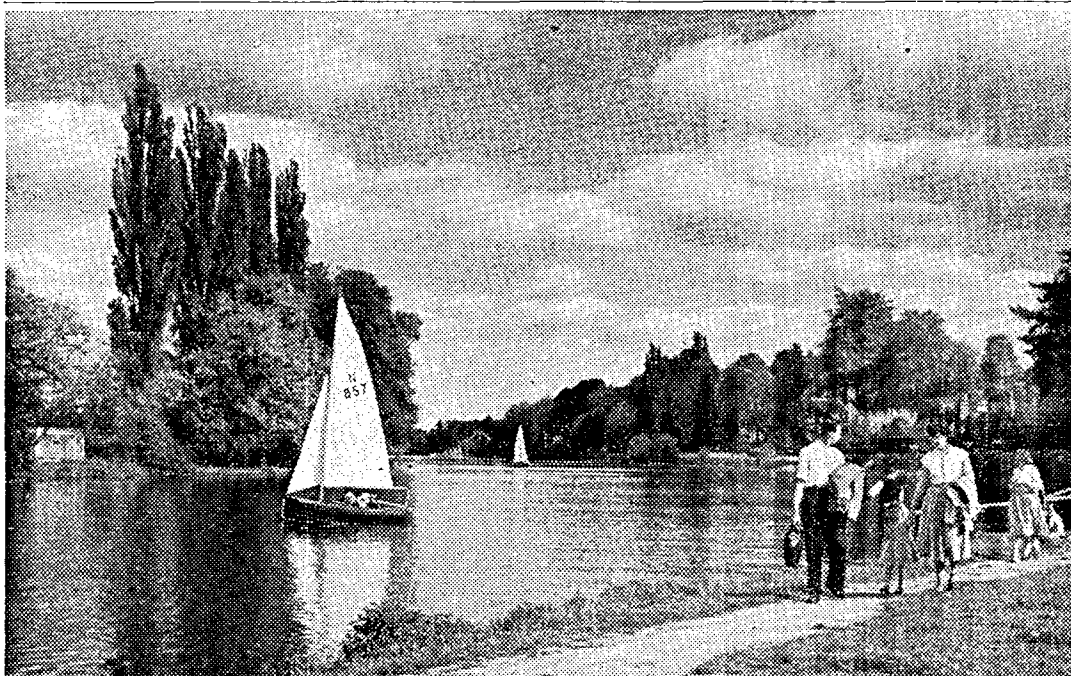
Denis Diderot (1713-1784). French man of letters. Editor



of the great Encyclopedia in which the knowledge and philosophy of the 18th century was drawn together in a remarkable way. This work was suppressed by the Church and he had a great struggle until Catherine the Great came to his rescue.

### October 6

Jenny Lind (1820-1887). Born in Stockholm, she went on the stage as a child and was an opera singer at 16. Coming to London in 1847, she gave concerts and sang in oratorios all over the country. They called her the Swedish Nightingale.



## OUR HOMELAND

A lovely stretch of the Thames looking towards Pangbourne, Berkshire, from the towing path



## NEW FILMS

# FUN IN THE BOARD-ROOM AND MUSIC ON THE FARM

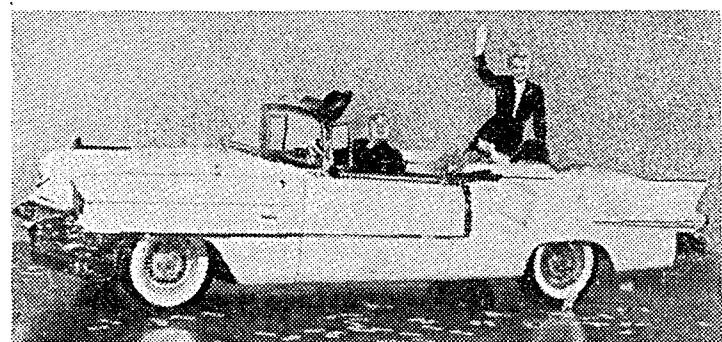
AN enjoyable new film called *The Solid Gold Cadillac* shows the remarkable things that happen to a huge American business as the result of the asking of a perfectly simple question.

It is the sort of question that shareholders in a big firm must often think of, but never venture to ask for fear of looking ridiculous. In the film, Judy Holliday is an ordinary unimportant shareholder who asks it quite naturally at a shareholders' meeting: Why do the directors get such big salaries, and what do they do to earn them?

The directors, as it happens, are not very honest men, and they find it hard to explain. So they give her a job to keep her quiet.

Her job is to answer letters from other small shareholders; when she finds that no such letters come into the office she writes them herself, and the small shareholders come to regard her as a friend. With the help of the one honest director (he had resigned, but she fetches him back) and all the proxy votes which the small shareholders have asked her to use on their behalf, she sets out to defeat the plans of the other directors.

At the end she and the honest director (Paul Douglas) ride off in a solid gold Cadillac, the car given her as a wedding present by grateful shareholders. It is not a very likely story, but it makes a very funny film.



Judy Holliday and Paul Douglas in their Solid Gold Cadillac

THE famous American stage musical play *Oklahoma!* has been made into a film which is very big, very noisy, and very enjoyable.

It is longer than most films, too—running for two hours and ten minutes. One point you will notice, perhaps, is that the CinemaScope screen somehow seems bigger than ever, for the action takes place amid spacious farmlands and rolling hills—not, strangely enough, of *Oklahoma*, but of Arizona.

The film begins with the hero, Curly, the cowboy, riding slowly and contentedly along through the tall standing corn as he sings one of the most famous of all the songs—"Oh What a Beautiful Morning"—and at every turn of the story there is another tune that

we recognise. There are ten more altogether, including the lilting "Surrey with the Fringe on Top."

The story concerns the love of Curly for the pretty country girl Laurey and the jealousy of Jud, the villainous farmhand. But the songs are really the important feature of the film—these and the dances, for there are several excellent dance scenes, including one on a train as it moves out of the little station of Claremore.

Gordon MacRae is Curly, Shirley Jones is Laurey, and Rod Steiger is the villainous Jud. He does not seem to belong to this type of story. But two others who seem really "at home" are Gloria Grahame as Ado Annie, and Eddie Albert as a cheerful gipsy pedlar. The whole film is very gay and pleasing.



At the wedding of Curly and Laurey—a scene from *Oklahoma!*

In the Country with THE HUT MAN

# STRANGE DANCE AT THREE BROTHERS' MOUND

THE Three Brothers had taken up position on their mound long before I came to Hut Country, 40 years ago, yet in appearance they have changed hardly at all since then. I think all three are the same age, and it must be very great, for their backs are bowed and their intertwining arms gnarled and twisted, a sturdy trio of small stunted oaks who have weathered the south-west gales for perhaps hundreds of years.

Their mound is littered with rugged, grey, lichen-covered boulders, and between these sheltering buttresses the soft, short grass is sprinkled with hillside flowers—bluebells, tormentil, anemones, and trefoils. Two of these boulders form a mossy cleft against which one can lean with comfort while sitting on the springy turf, and on warm summer days I often take a book to this quiet corner.

## PRESENCE OF AN ENEMY

It was while I was sitting reading on Three Brothers' Mound, one beautiful September afternoon, that I became aware of angry bird voices from an old hawthorn hedge which skirts the foot of the mound on its southern side. Looking up I saw a small mixed flock of about a dozen birds perched on the topmost twigs of the hedge, noisily objecting to some hidden enemy in the tangled undergrowth below.

Then a flash of white came and went among the grasses, and the next moment a stoat appeared, slipping in and out between the roots of the hedge, watching the birds and obviously considering the possibilities of a successful attack by climbing. In the end, however, he decided against tactics in which he would be hopelessly handicapped. Instead, he ran out to a little amphitheatre of green turf encircled by grey boulders.

Here he demonstrated a hunting method I had read about but never seen before—nor seen since. Half curling into a ball of russet fur, he began to spin round in a tight circle, rather like a kitten that is trying to catch its tail, tripping and tumbling every now and then but never pausing in his novel dance.

## THE BIRDS GROW QUIET

The clacking and scolding among the birds gradually ceased, and there they were perched on top of the hedge, with outstretched necks gazing down at the strange performance taking place on the turf below. Then a song-thrush left its upper circle seat and fluttered down to one in the dress circle on a twig below; and the thrush was followed by two chaffinches, a great tit, a blackbird, and two hedge sparrows, till the little flock was perched here and there along the lowest branches of the hawthorns. Still the stoat kept spinning, tumbling, and swerving with never a pause.

But even dress circle seats did not satisfy his avian audience.

First one bird and then another left the hedge, fluttering to stall seats on the turf, and in a few moments the dancing stoat was surrounded by a fascinated circle watching his antics from only seven feet away.

Then the dance changed. The acrobat continued to twist and twirl, but instead of remaining in one spot he began going out in spirals, the circles getting bigger and bigger till he was dancing in front of one bird after another, passing within only inches of each. It was as though he desired to



The watchful stoat

examine them individually and carefully before selecting the plumpest one for lunch.

He finally chose the blackbird. While passing in front of it the dance suddenly stopped, the stoat straightened out and whipped forward like a watch-spring. The blackbird opened its wings to fly, but the hunter came down on one of them pinning the bird to the ground.

A blackbird is a big bird for a

stoat to tackle, however, especially when it has one wing still free. The terrified bird tore its captured wing away, rose into the air, but, much to my surprise, did not fly off. Instead it dived on the stoat, screaming as only a scared and angry blackbird can.

This broke the spell which had held the flock fascinated. Rising in an angry crowd, they dove-bombed the now harassed stoat again and again, striking at him with their wings and screaming. For just a minute the stoat tried to hold his own, fighting back with claws and teeth; but finally he had to scuttle to cover.

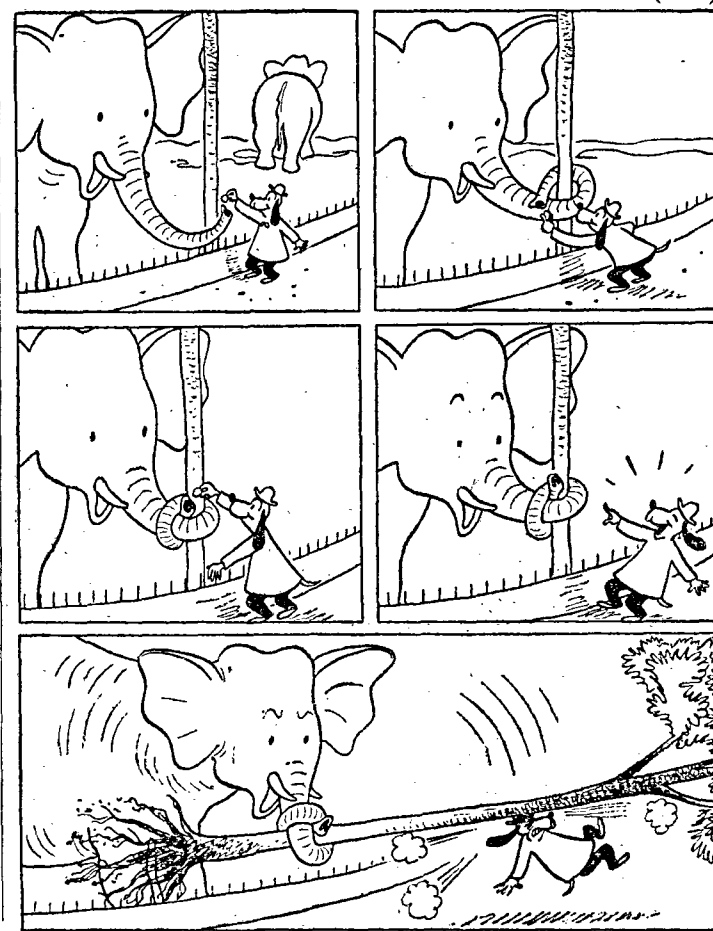
The last I saw of him he was again slipping in and out among the tangled herbage of the hedge bottom, while, once more on the topmost twigs, the birds followed his progress with angry scolding cries. But was it only imagination made me hear something akin to scoffing in their notes?

## YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGIST

Eleven-year-old Derrick Bruce, of Dundee, is a keen archaeologist, and recently he found three prehistoric arrow heads and several pieces of ancient pottery.

The most exciting discovery of his career so far was a cave used by Neolithic man near Arbroath. He spotted an opening no bigger than a foxhole, and managed to crawl through it. He found himself in a large cavern containing many relics of primitive cave-dwellers.

## OUR DUMB FRIEND BELLO (11)





# ST CHRISTOPHER HOOVER

## A great record of service to humanity

Amid all the excitements of the forthcoming Presidential elections in the United States one man sits in his apartment in New York City and watches everything with particular interest. He is the former President Herbert Hoover, now 82 years old.

But Herbert Hoover does not stay idly in his room. He has never retired from work and this autumn he is to receive a Christopher Award for the man who "uses his talents in a positive and constructive way for the common good." Father James Keller, who founded the Christopher Awards, has selected Herbert Hoover because, like the saint of old, the ex-President has always tried to help the unfortunate and the handicapped; he has lived up to the motto of the Christopher Award, "Better to light one candle than to curse the darkness."

### TWELVE HOURS A DAY

Herbert Hoover works twelve hours a day for the benefit of others. One of his great interests is the Boys' Club Movement of America. Every day a messenger goes up to his apartment with news of the clubs and how the members are doing. He likes to know about the boys serving in the Forces overseas, how they are progressing, and where they are stationed.

Herbert Hoover's first big candle was lighted after the First World War, when he directed the relief programme in Europe. He travelled through the Continent to see the problems for himself; then he carried a message back to the United States, which led to the food ships crossing the Atlantic.

His second big candle was lighted 25 years later. That was when President Truman asked him

to make a survey of the food situation to avert a famine which, this time, threatened not only Europe but the whole world. He was then 72 but he travelled 50,000 miles and visited no fewer than 38 countries.

Out of those journeys came the big assistance programme which the United States has so generously carried out in the last ten years. They helped to inspire the programme of Marshall Aid which helped Britain and many other



Mr. Herbert Hoover

countries to get on their feet again after the Second World War.

Most men who have lived as busy a life would be ready to retire. But not Herbert Hoover. This Iowa blacksmith's son who became America's 31st President has never retired; and while he still has the energy to serve good causes he never intends to retire.

On his 82nd birthday he advised young newspaper reporters who came to see him "never retire from work or you will shrivel up into a nuisance to all mankind." Mr. Hoover prefers to go on lighting candles.

## Power from the Sun

Work is to start shortly on a solar station from which Russian scientists hope to obtain electric power.

Situated in Armenia, which is the sunniest part of the U.S.S.R., the station will consist of a huge flat-sided boiler, the water of which will be heated by the sun's rays reflected upon it from 1293 large mirrors. These will be carried continuously round the boiler on automatic trains running on 23 circular tracks.

By this means, the water in the boiler will be turned to steam, which will be piped to the turbine of an ordinary generating plant.

When the sun rises its rays will switch on the various automatic devices which set the trains and other machinery in motion. This equipment automatically keeps the mirrors facing the sun and directing its rays onto the flat sides of the boiler.

### SCHOOLGIRL'S FRIEND

"Drop your penny, close your eyes—a granted wish shall be your prize." These words over a picture of a wishing well are an appropriate opening for School Friend Annual 1957.

With its wealth of gay and exciting stories, and pictures, it is a present most girls would wish to have. Variety is the spice of a good annual, and it is here in full measure—from jolly yarns of school life to tales of strange experiences in faraway lands.

At 7s. 6d., School Friend Annual is fine value.

### PLASTIC LIFEBOAT

A ship's lifeboat made of plastic reinforced with glass fibre has been on show in London. Claimed to be the first lifeboat made entirely of one material and in one piece, it is 24 feet long and has seats for 42 people.



### Cottage garden on the platform

Country railway stations have long been famous for their gardens tended by the station staff. But here is one on London's Underground. The model cottage and its miniature garden are to be seen at West Hampstead station.

### ADVENTURE AWHEEL

The first winner of the Cyclists' Touring Club's Adventure Trophy is 17-year-old Roy Jackson, of Lochmaben, Dumfries. This new trophy, given by Chains Limited, is to be presented every year to the young cyclist who does most to foster the spirit of cycle touring during the C.T.C.'s annual expedition for teenage boys.

This year the week of cycling adventure was held in Wales.

### PROUD ROCHDALE

For a whole month, all postal packets and letters from Rochdale, Lancashire, are being date-stamped with the words, "Rochdale Centenary 1856-1956." This is to celebrate the centenary of the incorporation of the borough.

In a letter to the Town Clerk, the Postmaster-General stated: "Rochdale will have the distinction of being the first town in the country to have a special stamp-dating to celebrate a local event of this kind."

### AIR PHOTOS SHOW ROMAN FORT

Pupils of Wakefield Grammar School have dug down to the foundations of a Roman fortress in a field on the south bank of the River Wharfe.

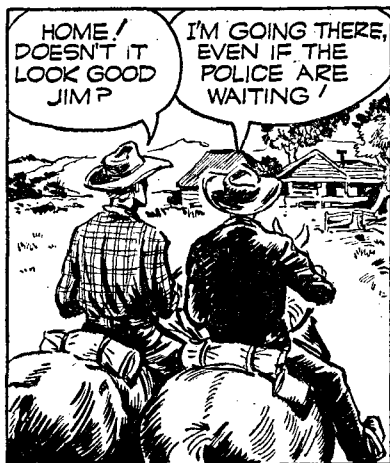
As has happened with so many hitherto undiscovered sites, the plan of the buildings showed up on air photographs taken when the crops were growing. Excavation has now proved that the fortress once covered eleven of Yorkshire's broad acres and had a wall ten feet wide.

Fourth-century pottery and some older remains were found, and stones identical with facing stones in the Roman fortress at York.

### TALL SCHOOL

The new Tulse Hill Secondary School is London's tallest, and probably the tallest in the country. It is 100 feet high, and has nine storeys. Whole classes of 30 boys can be taken from floor to floor by high-powered lifts.

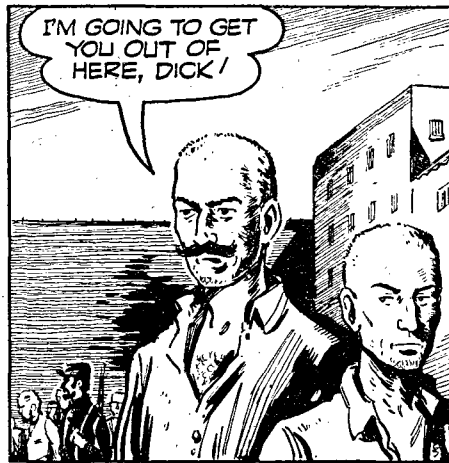
## ROBBERY UNDER ARMS, by Rolf Boldrewood—a tale of old Australia (4)



Dick and Jim left Melbourne after telling Jeanie and Kate, to whom they were engaged, that they had "urgent business" up country. On the way to the Hollow they could not resist visiting their home to see their mother and sister, Aileen. There, Dad told them that a warrant had been issued only for the arrest of Starlight. His confederates in the robbery had not been identified.



News came that Starlight and Warrigal, his half-caste servant, had been arrested in New Zealand—Starlight's extravagant behaviour as a "swell" having attracted attention. Dad advised the boys to go with him to the Hollow at once. Starlight would not give them away, he said, but Warrigal might because he disliked the lads. But Jim and Dick wanted to spend Christmas at home. On Christmas Eve the police arrived. Jim jumped onto his horse and escaped. Dick surrendered.



Dick and Starlight were tried together—Warrigal had escaped on the way to the trial. Starlight was sentenced to seven years imprisonment and Dick to five. Both were taken to Berrima gaol. There Starlight managed to get into touch with Warrigal, outside, and arranged a plan of escape. He whispered this to Dick while they were exercising in the prison yard. They heard later that once a man had been shot dead while trying to escape.



They obtained duplicate cell keys from another prisoner skilled in making them, and one night they unlocked their cells and crept to the outer wall, Starlight carrying some spikes and a rope. They intended to climb to the top of the wall by driving in the spikes with a muffled hammer, then to let themselves down on the other side, where Warrigal and Jim should be waiting with horses.

Has this daring escape plan any hope of success? See next week's instalment



# THANKS TO JENNINGS

By Anthony Buckeridge

While visiting Dunhambury Mr. Wilkins is cautioned for a parking offence, and Venables is accused by a bus conductor of not paying the correct fare.

The next day an inspector from The Ministry of Education arrives at the school. Temple assumes him to be a Gas Board official.

## 18. Mistaken identity

THE strains of song reached the ears of Venables as he pranced out of the junior common room and saw Atkinson in the corridor.

"Who's making that ghastly shemozzle?" he demanded.

"It's only Temple going up to Matron," Atkinson explained. "I was just telling him about an inspector chap who's just rolled up and he's gone to . . ."

"Wow!" The word shot from Venables' lips with a sound like an air gun discharging a pellet. "What did you say then? Who did you say had come?"

"An inspector."

"Fossilised fish-hooks! Come here, to the school!" Venables appeared to be in the grip of some strong emotion. "I know what he wants. I bet he's come to see my birth certificate."

Atkinson stared at him in bewilderment. "You must be stark raving crackers!" he said severely. "What makes you think the gas-man wants to see your birth certificate?"

"But you said he was an inspector."

"So he is. Mr. Carter said so. It was old Temple who thought he might be the gas-man."

"Well, he's wrong, then," Venables decided from his superior knowledge of the circumstances. "That chap's a bus inspector. He must be. It all fits in."

"What all fits in? What are you woffling about?"

## Venables is uneasy

Without more ado Venables outlined the events leading up to his altercation with the bus conductor the previous afternoon. " . . . and he wouldn't believe I was only 12 and he threatened to report me to the inspector for not paying the full fare," he finished up.

Atkinson was agog with excitement. Here was something to break the tedium of a wet afternoon. "So you think they've got on your scent and tracked you down?"

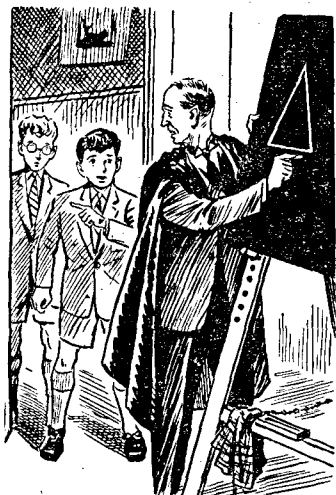
"Must have. I told him which school I went to, you see. Still," Venables gave a little shrug of indifference. "I'm not worried, though. Mr. Carter said he'd tell them it was all right."

The news that Mr. Carter was last seen heading for Mr. Pemberton-Oakes' study and might not be readily available caused Venables a sudden qualm of uneasiness. In

the absence of his birth certificate it was essential that he should be able to produce a reliable witness to speak on his behalf.

"Isn't there any other way you can prove how old you are?" Atkinson queried when he heard of this new source of anxiety.

"Well, there's my diary, of course," Venables replied after some thought. "It's got all my particulars in there. Name, age,



Mr. Wilkins wheeled round in sudden alarm

size of collars, watch number, business address, if any—the lot."

"Well, there you are, then. That'll do just as well. I should find the inspector chap and show him. He'll feel an awful fool when he realises how young you really are."

"Righto! Come with me then to back me up, in case he won't believe me."

The invitation banished all thoughts of music practice from Atkinson's mind. Whatever happened, he was determined to be among those present when Venables and his accuser met face to face.

In feverish haste the boys scuttled off to their classroom to fetch Venables' diary from his desk.

## Darbishire in a hurry

Meanwhile, Darbishire was having some difficulty in finding Mr. Wilkins. There had been no answer when he had knocked at the door of the master's room, and a search of lobbies and classrooms had failed to reveal his presence. There was no sign of him in the library, either, when Darbishire put his head round the door. But Jennings was there, revising his history. He looked up when the door opened and beckoned Darbishire into the room.

"I can't stop," Darbishire explained. "I've got to find old Wilkie. There's an inspector come specially to see him."

"An inspector! Are you sure?"

"Yes, I was the first person to see him," Darbishire answered

with pride. "I told Mr. Carter he'd arrived."

"Was he in a police car?"

"Who? Mr. Carter?"

"No; the inspector, you clod-poll!"

"Oh, I see." Darbishire had no precise information on this point. However, he was able to state, without hesitation, that the official was not wearing uniform.

"A plain clothes inspector! Wow! That's pretty serious!" Jennings exclaimed when he had digested this information. "If it had been something like, say, for instance, not having a dog licence, they'd have just sent an ordinary policeman."

"But Old Wilkie hasn't got a dog," Darbishire objected.

## Finding the wanted man

"That proves what I said. It must be something so serious that they need a top-ranking, plain clothes officer to carry out an investigation. I wonder what Old Wilkie's been up to?"

It was, perhaps, unfortunate that Jennings had not been present in the corridor to hear Temple discoursing on the fact that there are many different kinds of inspectors. As it was, his mind leaped impulsively to the most exciting conclusion he could think of. Not for one moment did it occur to him that the visitor could be anything but an inspector of police.

He slammed shut the history book and jumped to his feet. He had no idea what the visit portended, but whatever it was he was not going to miss it.

"Come on then, Darbi, I'll help you find him," he said, hurrying to the door. "And buck up! It doesn't do to keep the police waiting, you know."

As they scuttled off on their search, Darbishire speculated on the possible results of the inspector's visit. Would the master be taken away in a police car? he wondered.

## Shock for Mr Wilkins

"It's not much help to me if Old Wilkie's not here for history," Jennings said bitterly. "I've learned all those six pages by heart now, don't forget. If only they'd had the decency to arrest him a week ago there'd have been some sense in it."

"I never said they were going to arrest him," Darbishire objected. "I only thought they might take him away to be an important witness, or something."

They had reached Form 5b's classroom by this time, and Jennings glanced in through the open door. To his delight he saw Mr. Wilkins alone in the room, chalking up geometrical figures on the blackboard.

"Sir! . . . Sir! . . . Oh there you are, sir," Jennings called as he bounced in through the door.

"What is it?" From his tone it seemed that the master was not pleased at the interruption. He continued drawing isosceles triangles without turning his head from the board.

"Urgent message for you, sir, from Mr. Carter," Jennings burst out. "There's a policeman to see you."

"What!"

Continued on page 10

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## THANKS TO JENNINGS

Continued from page 9

The chalk emitted a grating squeak as Mr. Wilkins wheeled round in sudden alarm. "A policeman?" he echoed.

"Yes, sir. A plain clothes officer, and Mr. Carter says you're wanted, sir."

"I—I— Good heavens!" Mr. Wilkins seemed strangely affected by the announcement. He pursed his lips and muttered: "Tt! So he did take my number after all."

With an air of anxious importance, Darbshire asked: "Does that mean that you'll be—er—I mean, do you know what he wants you for, sir?"

Mr. Wilkins nodded briefly. He could guess! In point of fact he had not seriously thought that his parking offence would lead to a summons.

"Will you have to go off to the police station right away, sir?" Darbshire continued hopefully. "Or will you be here for history?"

"Of course I shall be here for history, you silly little boy!" Mr. Wilkins said testily. "To hear you talk anyone would think I was on the point of being clapped into handcuffs and driven away in a Black Maria!"

"Sorry, sir. I only thought—I mean, as the officer was a plain

clothes one I wondered . . ." Darbshire lapsed into silence at the sight of Mr. Wilkins' expression.

"Where is he? I'll go and see him at once," the master decided. He would explain what had happened; how, by mistaking the date, he had chanced to park on the wrong side of the road. It was the sort of thing that might happen to anyone.

"I don't know where he is now, sir, but he was in the masters' common room a little while ago," Darbshire volunteered. "We'll come with you if you like, sir, and . . ."

"You'll do nothing of the sort!" came the curt reply.

This was a disappointment. "What do you want us to do then, sir?"

"Do? I don't mind what you do. Go and play tiddly-winks in the games room, or whatever you were doing before. I'm not having you boys hanging about and gawping like half-wits while I'm talking to the inspector!"

Mr. Wilkins strode from the room, rehearsing a few well-chosen phrases with which to clear up the misunderstanding and establish friendly relations with the officer of the law.

To be continued

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## SPORTS SHORTS

### Looking ahead

ALTHOUGH the final rounds of the World Soccer Cup will not be held until 1958, England has her first game in this competition in December of this year. England is grouped with Eire and Denmark in the qualifying groups, and home and away matches will be played to decide who shall compete in the final stages in Sweden. England's first game is against Denmark, on the Wolverhampton Wanderers' ground.

WITH the departure of the Australian cricketers, we say farewell to Ray Lindwall and Keith Miller, two of the world's greatest all-rounders, for it is unlikely that we shall see either of them playing any further Tests against England. Keith Miller, however, hopes to return to this country to report the next series of Tests against England in 1961.

In his 54 Tests, Keith has scored 2926 runs and taken 168 wickets. Ray Lindwall's figures in his 51 Tests are 1337 runs and 199 wickets.

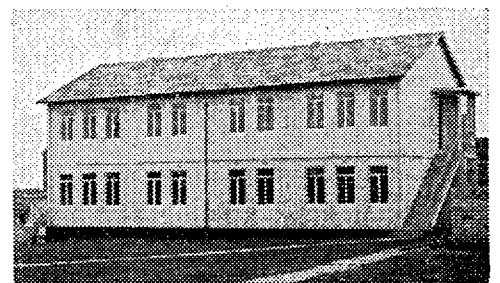
THE Grant sisters, from Toronto, recently returned to their Canadian home with five of our A.S.A. championships. Virginia, 19-year-old student of child psychology, won the women's 110 and 220-yards free-style titles, and 16-year-old Susan took the girls' backstroke, 110 yards, and 220 yards free-style trophies. Virginia will represent Canada at the Melbourne Olympics, but Susan failed in the trials. But she can look forward with confidence to 1960!

### Exam for Thelma

THELMA HOPKINS, Empire and European high-jump champion, has been neglecting her sport this past month, for Thelma, who is a dental student at Belfast University, has been preparing for an exam. She hopes to get to Australia several weeks before the Olympic Games start and to continue her training under her former coach, Franz Stampf, who is now in that country.

### Flats for the Olympic athletes

Athletes at the Olympic Games in Melbourne will live in four-roomed flats like these. The gardens are now being laid out, for September is a Spring month in Australia.



THE draw for the opening football matches in the Olympic Games tournament has paired Britain with Thailand. The reigning Olympics champions, Hungary, have withdrawn from the Melbourne tournament.

JIMMY BUCHAN, 21-year-old newspaper reporter from Perth, this month achieved a boyhood ambition when he won both the Junior and Senior Manx Grand Prix motor-cycle events at average speeds of 88.5 and 90.8 m.p.h.

### OLYMPIC HOPES—3

#### CHRIS CHATAWAY

One of the select little company of athletes who have run the mile in less than four minutes, red-haired Chris Chataway is not likely to be seen again on the track once the Melbourne Olympics are over. His work as a television personality is the future dedication of a man who has never allowed athletic pursuits to dominate his life.

Chris smiles when he recalls a test made when he was at Oxford. According to that, he should not have been a runner at all.



In the 1952 Olympics he fell when well placed in the 5000 metres, but still finished fifth. Should he win this event at Melbourne, there will be no more popular British victory.



BRIAN BULLIVANT has a double mission when he goes to Melbourne in November. The first is to win a canoeing medal for Britain; the second is to visit his mother-in-law, whom he has never seen. He married his Australian wife when she was on holiday in this country six years ago.

### Badminton training



Badminton is an indoor sport, but outdoor training helps a great deal if you are in the championship class. Here we see Mrs. Iris Rogers—formerly Miss Iris Cooley—England's top singles player, getting fit for the new season.

HAS Gordon Pirie run his last race in England? It is quite possible, for he is considering emigrating to Australia or New Zealand after representing Great Britain in the Olympic Games in November. He has already received offers of jobs there. If Gordon does decide to go to either of these Dominions we shall lose one of our greatest athletes. This year he has broken the world 3000 and 5000 metre records.

### In the Family

THE cup presented for the Wiltshire women's diving championship might perhaps be called the Dymond Cup, for a family with that name has held the trophy for ten years. Mrs. Dymond of Salisbury won the title each year from 1947 to 1952, then her daughter Janet took over. Janet recently won the championship for the fourth consecutive time.

BRITISH athletes face one of their stiffest international matches this weekend, when they meet Hungary, in Budapest. The only previous clash between the men of Great Britain and Hungary was in London last year, when the visitors won by 23 points. But our women have won their two previous meetings with Hungary, in Budapest two years ago, and in London last summer. They can make it a hat-trick this weekend.



The Children's Newspaper, September 29, 1956

## ZOO NEWS

# PROBLEMS AT WHIPSNADE AND REGENT'S PARK

Whipsnade officials, who have just been going through the breeding statistics, discover that the zoo-park has had one of its best breeding seasons on record. Over 100 mammals have been born there this year (omitting domestic types such as goats and sheep). But one species, the Chinese water-deer, is baffling them.

"We have a large herd of these little animals," an official told me. "But unlike our other deer they are not enclosed. Virtually the whole of our 500 acres is available to them to roam in. And roam they do! Most of them keep to the less frequented parts of the estate, and all are adept at hiding among the crops."

"Our herd is probably the most successful in Britain. They were bred from a small collection of 32 which were first freed here in 1930. Now we have well over 100 and would have had many more had not an epidemic reduced their numbers some years ago."

"These little animals are among the few deer that have no antlers (which makes the discovering of them even more difficult). When running, they scurry away with little quick leaps very like hares, and after running for some distance they suddenly drop among long grass or any other cover and promptly become invisible."

## BROWN BEARS GROWING UP

But if Whipsnade officials have their problems, so, too, do the London Zoo authorities. One of them, at the moment, concerns the future of Nikki, the brown bear cub given to Princess Anne last April by the Russian leaders, and left at the Zoo. Since April, Nikki has been living in a specially-built cage near the lion house, with Rusk, a baby brown bear born at Regent's Park at the end of February, about the same date that Nikki was born in the Moscow Zoo.

The pair have been the biggest of the London Zoo's 1956 attractions. "They have undoubtedly brought thousands of children to the Gardens," an official said. "And their entertainment value

has been enormous. They play incessantly, either on their see-saw, or by staging the most amusing wrestling bouts. For the last few weeks they have been living continuously in their play-cage, where we fixed them up with a 'bed-room' in which they could bed down together."

"But now both cubs weigh well over 50 lb. each and they are getting rather too big for their cage, which is only a temporary structure. The difficulty is to find a suitable home for them. We are fully stocked with bears and there is no den available for Nikki and Rusk on the Mappin Terraces. It looks as though we shall have to fit them in a den in one of the other houses in the Gardens."

A Zoo animal that hands coins to visitors must be unique in the

## Heads together



Hank, the little donkey at the Children's Zoo in Regent's Park, is everyone's friend and does not even mind being used as a pigeon perch.

annals of the menagerie. Yet this is what Balu, the Himalayan black bear, has been doing.

The other day a woman visitor, watching the bears from the parapet above the enclosure, accidentally dropped her handbag in it. Keepers soon retrieved the bag, but the contents were scattered far and wide, and many of the coins that fell from the bag went unnoticed.

Since then, Balu has been amusing himself by picking up the pennies and passing them out to visitors through the bars—usually in return for a titbit! "It's the oddest bit of bribery we have seen," said the official who told me the story.

Even the quarantine station, it seems, has its problem animals. It certainly has one at the moment—a sprightly little Korin gazelle newly arrived from tropical Africa. This animal came over by sea, and because it butted various folk, the captain ordered the ship's carpenter to make two wooden blocks which could be fitted over the tips of the animal's sharp horns. The blocks have remained on the gazelle's horns during its quarantine period.

But now that it is about to go on exhibition, officials are wondering whether to have these rather clumsy-looking objects removed.

"Doubtless the keepers would appreciate it if we left them on, because the animal is quite spiteful," one official said. "But the gazelle would certainly look rather odd if exhibited with its present head-dress, so we shall probably have them removed before the animal goes on show."

Craven Hill

## RELIGIOUS DRAMA FOR U.S.

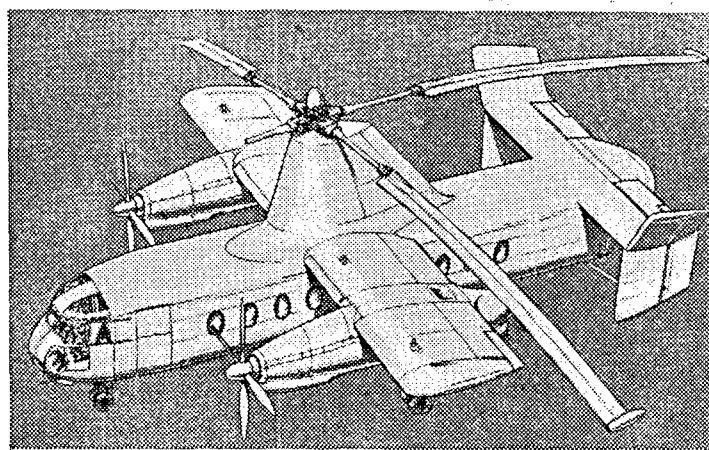
Mr. E. Martin Browne, director of the British Drama League, is starting a training course in religious drama at the Union Theological Seminary at Columbia University, New York.

Mr. Browne, who is chairman of the Religious Drama Society, revived the York Mystery Play in 1951 and 1954.

## SCHOOL NEWSPAPERS

No fewer than 38 United States universities now publish a daily newspaper. Written and edited entirely by students, all these journals appear on at least five days a week, and most of them deal with national and international news as well as university news and comment.

## HELICOPTER-AIRLINER



An artist's impression of the Fairey Rotordyne. One of the rotors has been omitted to show the second engine

Nearing completion in a British aircraft factory is a remarkable new rotorplane which may well revolutionise short-range air travel.

The aircraft is the Fairey Rotordyne, a 40-50 seat air-bus combining the features of both a fixed-wing plane and a helicopter.

It can rise and descend vertically with a five-ton load, and cruises faster in level flights than a Dakota.

For hovering, climbing, or descending, the Rotordyne has a 90-foot four-bladed rotor mounted above the fuselage. For forward flight it has normal propellers and a stubby, shoulder-high wing.

The propellers are driven by two Napier Eland gas turbine engines.

During take-off these supply compressed air through the hollow rotor blades to pressure jets mounted at the rotor tips. There the air is mixed with burning fuel, and the resulting exhaust causes the blades to rotate.

When sufficient height and forward speed is reached, most of the engine power is transferred to the propellers. The rotor then "free wheels" in the airflow—and provides about half the lift.

The Rotordyne will be able to operate from city "heliports" measuring only 200 by 400 feet. On short-stage routes passengers will find it much quicker than the conventional airliner, for it saves travelling to the airport.

## OLD TESTAMENT CITY FOUND

The exact site of the Israelite city of Gibeon, said in the Old Testament to be "one of the royal cities," has been discovered at El-jib, near Jerusalem, by American archaeologists.

The city covered an area of 16 acres and was surrounded by a wall ten feet thick with towers. A large pool cut from solid rock is thought to be the pool mentioned in the Second Book of Samuel, chapter 2, as the place of the struggle between the men of Abner, Saul's captain, and Joab, the captain of David's forces.

The Gibeonites are described in the Bible as "hewers of wood and drawers of water," having been put in this bondage because they won a truce by trickery. The city is believed to have been built before 1200 B.C.

## INTERNATIONAL TRAIN

A train made up of specially designed coaches is making a daily run between Cologne, Hanover, and Brunswick in West Germany to try to establish a standard coach for use on six European railway systems.

Known as the Train of the Nations, the coaches come from France, Italy, Switzerland, Denmark, Holland, and West Germany.

Passengers are being invited to comment on the seating, comfort, quietness, and general appearance of the coaches.

The train will run until October 6, when it will then be taken to Minden, near Hanover, for further testing on a special track.

## WORD-MAKERS AT WORK

Although English is used for official purposes in India, the main Indian language of Hindi is to replace it. So a special department of the Indian Ministry of Education is busy devising new words and phrases to express scientific and technical terms in that language. So far, about 60,000 terms have been evolved.

When the work is complete, the new terminology will be uniformly used in school textbooks throughout India.

The department is also drawing up lists of Hindi words to be used in various Government departments as well as for use in many business concerns.

## END OF A RAILWAY

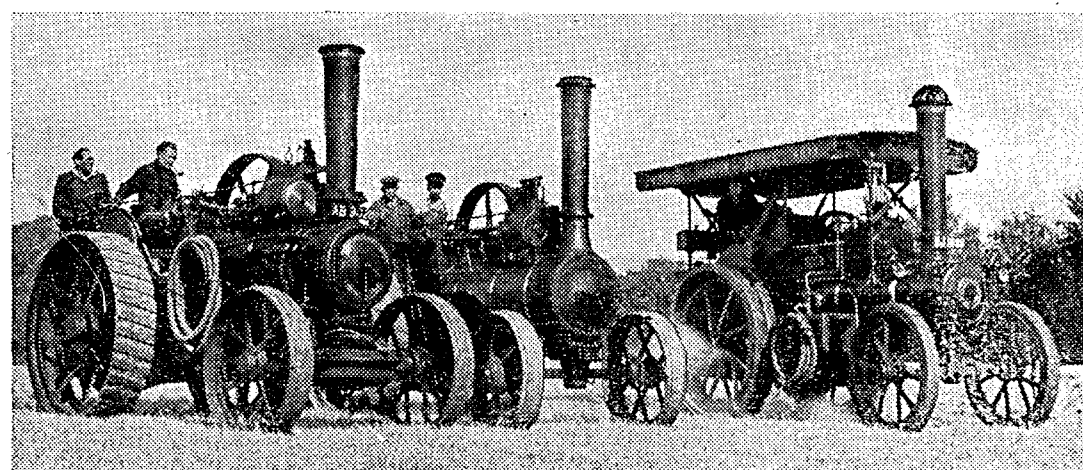
Since it was opened seven years ago, the Penwood miniature railway, near Newbury, in Berkshire, has carried thousands of children. Now, owing to the sale of the estate, this little railway is closing.

This railway has the longest track with a five-inch gauge in the world, and every year its trains travelled some 950 miles. Last year 38,000 youngsters had free rides.

## THAT BLACK LOOK

There were black looks—literally—in Trenton, Ontario, the other day when a tar-spraying machine was accidentally set in motion.

The machine was being taken down a road on the back of a lorry and by the time the driver realised that the machine had been jolted into action several cars and a policeman were covered with tar.



## Gathering of the veterans

A traction engine rally was held recently at Northleach, Gloucestershire. Veterans of 1894, 1908, and 1914 are seen lining up for the start of one of the races.



## A MATTER OF TIME

"WHAT is the use of your time-table if the train is always late?" the traveller complained.

"Well, sir," said the porter, "what would be the use of our waiting rooms if the trains were always on time?"

## PHUNNY APAIR

The following notice is said to have appeared in America many years ago in the first number of a local newspaper.

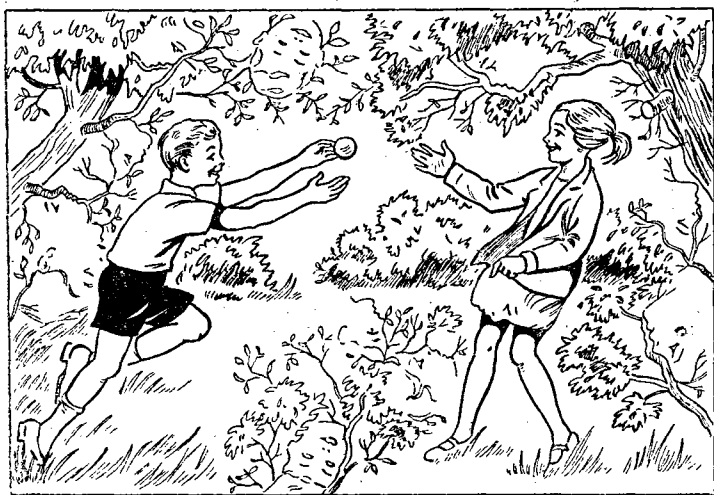
WE begin publication of this paper with some phew diphthulties in the way.

The type phounder phrom whom we bought our outphit phor this printing ophphice phaled to supply us with any ephs or cays, and it will be phour or phive weexs bephore we can get any.

We don't lique the loox of this variety of spelling any better than our readers, but mistagues will happen, and iph the p's, and c's and x's and q's hold out, we shall ceep (sound the ce hard) the paper going aphter a phashion.

## FIND THEIR HIDDEN PLAYMATES

BASIL and Jean were having a fine game by themselves. But unknown to them 12 of their playmates were watching. Can you find them?



## NAME ME

Two parts of black and one of green,  
Mixed with one of ultra-marine,  
Give the colour of sea and sky.  
Pray tell me, please, what shade am I?

## POCKET-MONEY PROBLEM

BILL's father gives him a rise of 1s. every year in pocket money. Peter's father gives him a rise of 6d. every six months. If Bill has his rise at the end of the year and Peter has his on Midsummer's Day and at the end of the year, who gets the most pocket-money for the year?

## LINK THESE WORDS TOGETHER

THE names of each of these drawings can be arranged in such a way that the last letter of one object is the first letter of the next. Can you link to form a chain?



## OTHER WORLDS

IN the evening Mars is in the south-east and Saturn is in the south-west. In the morning Venus is in the south-east and Mars is in the south-west. The picture shows



the Moon as it will appear at half-past six on Thursday morning, September 27.

## LOOKING FOR A FAIRY

I HEARD a little laugh today when I was out alone;  
It seemed most elfin-like and gay,  
And sounded near, then far away.  
I searched the bushes up and down,  
And shook the foxgloves out;  
I turned the sunflower's golden crown,  
And peeped beneath a toadstool brown.  
And there was nothing I could see  
In any likely place.  
I wonder if you think, like me,  
I'd set a little fairy free?

## SAMMY SIMPLE

SAID Sammy to his mother: "What keeps us from falling off the world as it spins round and round?"

"The law of gravity."

"What stopped us before the law was passed?"

## FOXGLOVE TEA ROOMS

BENEATH the moss-grown garden wall  
Grow graceful foxgloves, slim and tall,  
And on warm, sunny days you'll see  
Stout bumble-bees pop in for tea.  
If only I were very small,  
I'd like to climb a foxglove tall,  
And creep inside a flower bell  
To take my tea in there as well.

## BEDTIME TALE

### BILLY GOES TO GOLF

FROM time to time Billy used to go with his father to golf. And so when Daddy bought a new golf trolley to carry his bags Billy had to be on the spot to see it used for the first time.

Off they went to the golf course, where Billy announced that he would pull the trolley.

The trolley was quite light and easy to pull, though at first Billy found it difficult to get it down some of the steep slopes.

They were nearing the end of the round when the accident happened. Walking gingerly down a steep slope, Billy felt the trolley jerk sideways behind him. He

turned quickly to try to stop it falling—and felt a sharp pain in his ankle.

Daddy and his partner hurried back on hearing Billy's shout, and examined his foot.

"That's a nasty sprain, old man," said Daddy. "We'd better get you home so that you can rest it."

A little later Mummy looked out of her window and got quite a shock. There was Daddy pushing his trolley with Billy sitting on it.

"Well," she exclaimed, "I know these things are sometimes called caddie-cars, but you've made it into a kiddie-car!"

## PRECISELY

"Do you want a hair-cut, sir?" queried the hairdresser.

"I want all of them cut."

"Yes, sir. Quite. Er—any particular way?"

"Yes, off!"

## MISSING MIDDLE

IF you insert the name of an old means of illumination between the two rows of letters, you will make six three-letter words reading down.

Can you find the word?

I T A O S B

Y R T E Y N

## MIXED BATTLES

Put these letters in their correct order and you have the names of three famous battles.

O L E T a r o w .

Sing hats.

Crew store.

## CAN YOU READ THIS RHYME?

Try to read it before you see what it should sound like.

Y y u r,  
Y y u b,  
I c u r  
Y y 4 me.

Answers to these puzzles are given in column 5

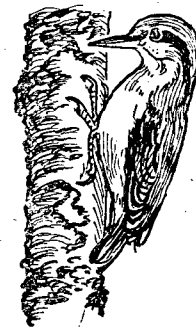
## JACKO STARTS A STORM IN A TEASHOP



Jacko and Baby thought it would be a good idea to liven up the local teashop. They had just started work on a plate of cakes when Jacko set a clockwork mouse running along the floor. Then everybody else thought it would be a good idea for Jacko and Baby to go out of the teashop—quickly.

## SPOT THE . . .

NUTHATCH as he climbs swiftly up the trunk of a tree, eagerly seeking insects. He is a handsome fellow about five and a half inches



long. The plumage on his back is slate-grey, while beneath the chin is pale buff, which gradually changes to a warm chestnut. He is more easily heard than seen, as he possesses a loud clear whistle.

In addition to insects, nuthatches eat seeds and nuts, which they wedge in a crevice of the bark and smash with their bills.

## ANSWERS TO QUIZ CORNER

1. A bearskin, because of the fur from which it is made.
2. Good, because as a covering it keeps them warm. But it sometimes breaks off branches.
3. Frances Stuart, Duchess of Richmond, a Beauty of the Court of Charles II.
4. To carry its young.
5. When news of a lost or overdue ship is received or other special information is to be given out.
6. With thick glass the inner surface heats up and expands sooner than the outer surface, causing strain and fracture. In thin glass the expansion is uniform throughout.

## ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Name me. Blue  
Pocket-money problem. Peter gets 13s. more than Bill because he has had his 6d. extra for half a year already.  
Two answers. Acre; Eye; Turkey; Atlas; Monitor; Gainsborough  
Catch question. The date  
What am I? Tangerine  
Missing middle. Candle  
Mixed battles. Waterloo; Hastings; Worcester  
Link these words together. Sheep; Punch; ham; mask; kangaroo; onion; nib; bow; wig; glass  
Can you read this rhyme?  
Too wise you are,  
I see you be,  
Too wise for me

## LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

SPAN SILO  
OLD HOD T  
ADMONISH  
INUPOWE  
STAG STIR  
LED AAINS  
ADMITTED  
N TIRE ALL  
DANK CREW

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